MANAGING PROJECT DELIVERY INFORMATION SYSTEM

The purpose of this information system is to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of project management statewide. This system can improve communication amongst project team members, allows managers to view multiple project schedules simultaneously and improve project accountability.

What is MPDIS?

MPDIS is an information system that works within WSDOT's Managing Project Delivery methods for effective and efficient project delivery. The first step in implementing *MPDIS* statewide is the release of PS8 - a state of the art scheduling software package that will replace Microsoft Project at WSDOT.

PS8 is a tool for:

- Project Planning
- Work Breakdown Structure Development
- Schedule Building and MOU Agreement
- Resource Assignments and Management
- Develop Managing Cost to Complete Estimates
- Comprehensive Project Analysis and Tracking
- Individual or Multiple Project Analysis
- Performance Measurement

PS8 Feature Listing Link

http://www.scitor.com/products/PS_Suite/PS_Suite_R2_Feature_Listing.pdf

Why is WSDOT Implementing a Managing Project Delivery Information System?

To enhance project level scheduling and budgeting and to provide an agency-wide method to balance resources and roll-up consistent project data across multiple projects is needed. The need for an enhanced project scheduling tool was identified in the Managing Project Delivery Focus Group and the JLARC audit.

Where Did MPDIS Come From?

In 1997, the Olympic Region set out to improve their project delivery effectiveness. This effort evolved into a search for a more robust scheduling software tool that could handle multiple project schedules, be networked with other project support teams to share schedule information, and have the ability to compile schedule, budget, and resource data and "roll it up" at the team, office, and region levels.

Scitor's PS8 software was selected through a competitive process. Soon after, the entire agency jumped in, realizing that this is a powerful tool for effectively managing project delivery, providing consistency for project teams across the state.

What are the Benefits of MPDIS?

When used, MPDIS will:

- Improve communication by providing easily accessible information
- Integrate support group schedules with individual project schedules
- Enable resource allocations and identify bottlenecks
- Enable resource leveling over multiple projects
- Improve schedule coordination among projects
- Track projects from project definition through design and construction
- Enable the performance of what if... scenarios
- Provide access to project data at various levels Office, Region, HQ
- Provide reporting mechanisms to track key tasks and milestones
- Support the ongoing "Gray Book" efforts.

The End Result

When fully implemented, *MPDIS* will lead to increased efficiency in project delivery and greater accountability.

What Will Make MPDIS Successful?

MPDIS is not a "Silver Bullet", and will not eliminate the need for excellent project management skills. MPDIS is a TOOL that requires accurate information and regular updating by the Project Manager. When changes occur, MPDIS will not replace the need for human communication. Communication is essential between participating groups when changes to the schedule or budget occur. The everyday project team member is the critical user, and the critical link in the success of the roll-ups and reporting down the line.